

Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 NEA-10 ISO-00 CAB-02 CIAE-00
COME-00 DODE-00 DOTE-00 EB-08 INR-10 NSAE-00
FAA-00 L-03 SS-15 NSC-05 PA-01 USIA-06 AF-10
ARA-10 EA-10 /117 W
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P R 232037Z MAR 78
FM AMCONSUL MONTREAL
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 209
INFO AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

C O N F I D E N T I A L MONTREAL 559

FROM USREP ICAO

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PORG, EAIR, ICAO
SUBJECT: ICAO COUNCIL DISCUSSION OF 32ND UNGA RESOLUTIONS

REF: A. MONTREAL 546, B. STATE 73240

SUMMARY: COUNCIL ADOPTED BY CONSENSUS A FORMULA REAFFIRMING
READINESS TO ACT POSITIVELY TOWARDS THE OBJECTIVES OF THE UN
RESOLUTIONS. SINCE ISRAELIS PRIVATELY INDICATED BEFOREHAND
THAT THIS WAS ACCEPATBLE, USREP IN ACCORDNACE WITH REFTEL
ACQUIESCED IN CONSENSUS, AND MADE STATEMENT AFTER THE FACT AND
FOR THE RECORD, REAFFIRMING NEGATIVE POSITION RE UNGA RESOLUTION
32/40. ISRAELI OBSERVER THEN MADE STRONG, SWEEPING STATEMENTS
ABOUT THIS ICAO ACTION AND ICAO RESPONSIBILITIES.

1. COUNCIL COMPLETED DISCUSSION MARCH 23. COUNCIL PRESIDENT
OPENED MEETING WITH REVIEW OF PREVIOUS DISCUSSIONS, THEN LEAPT OVER
IMPASSE BY REFERRING TO HIS COMPROMISE TEXT (REF A, PARA 1) AS
ACCEPTABLE TO COUNCIL BY CONSENSUS. THERE WERE NO OBJECTIONS
FROM COUNCIL. PRESIDENT EVADED SEVERAL REPS' TENTATIVE EFFORTS
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TO MAKE MINOR ADJUSTMENTS, THEN ENTERTAINED REPS' STATEMENTS
FOR THE RECORD. AS THINGS UNFOLDED, ISRAELI REP NEITHER INDICATED
NOR COMMUNICATED TO US ANY DISSATISFACTION WITH THIS DESPITE
AMPLE OPPORTUNITY TO DO SO. BASED ON INSTRUCTIONS IN PARA 2 OF
REFTEL B, USREP PROCEEDED WITH STATEMENT AFTER THE FACT.

2. A. USREP OPENED, IN ATTEMPT TO SET TONE, BY APPLAUDING COUNCIL'S

STATESMANSHIP, NOTING THAT MANY STATES HAD STRONG VIEWS, AND THAT IF PARA 7 RE QUESTION OF PALESTINE HAD BEEN DEBATED, US POSITION WULD HAVE BEEN THAT WHICH WE VOTED IN THE UN.

B. UKREP ECHOED OUR FINAL POINT.

C. ISRAELI OBSERVER THEN SPOKE ACKNOWLEDGING US, UK, FRG AND FRENCH SUPPORT, NOTING IRRELEVANCE OF CWP 6704 TO ICAO AIMS, AND OBJECTING TO INTRODUCTION OF POLITICAL ISSUES INTO ICAO. SOMEWHAT TO OUR SURPRISE IN VIEW OF HIS STATEMENTS TO US BEFORE THIS MEETING, HE THEN BEGAN A BROADER STATEMENT REGARDING ICAO'S RELATIONS WITH THE PLO AND OTHER ORGANIZATIONS. LEBANON RAISED A POINT OF ORDER, AND PRESIDENT ASKED ISRAELI TO LIMIT HIMSELF TO PARA 7 OF CWP 6704. ISRAELI THEN BEGAN AN ATTACK ON THE COMMITTEE ON THE EXERCISE OF THE INALIENABLE RIGHTS OF THE PALESTINIAN PEOPLE AND THE SPECIAL UNIT ON PALESTINIAN RIGHTS, WHICH WAS GAVELLED DOWN BY COUNCIL PRESIDENT.

D. SENEGAL REAFFIRMED HIS VIEW, NOTING THAT HE DID NOT CONSIDER THAT GIVING OBSERVER STATUS TO THE PLO WAS A POLITICAL DECISION.

E. EGYPTIAN NOTED THAT WHILE HE WENT ALONG WITH THE CONSENSUS, HE WOULD HAVE PREFERRED DIRECT ACCEPTANCE OF PARA 7 OF CWP 6704.

F. PAKISTANI REP EXPRESSED FEELING THAT ICAO MUST RESPOND POSITIVELY TO ANYTHING, HE EMPHASIZED, REFERRED TO ICAO BY UNGA. CONFIDENTIAL

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G. LEBANON MADE A DISPASSIONATE STATEMENT SAYING THAT ICAO CANNOT COMPLETELY IGNORE POLITICAL FACTORS WHICH INTRUDE INTO ICAO AFFAIRS. HARPER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: CIVIL AVIATION, UNGA RESOLUTIONS, AVIATION AGREEMENTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 23 mar 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978MONTRE00559
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780129-0078
Format: TEL
From: MONTREAL
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780332/aaaabbbf.tel
Line Count: 99
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 53bfd7be-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION IO
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 78 MONTREAL 546, 78 STATE 73240
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 08 jul 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3226435
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: ICAO COUNCIL DISCUSSION OF 32ND UNGA RESOLUTIONS
TAGS: PORG, EAIR, US, CA, ICAO
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/53bfd7be-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014